

## 17

8. The stent of claim 1, wherein the strand portions in each of the pairs of strand portion ends are overlapping.

9. The stent of claim 1, wherein the strands comprise at least one of polymer and metal.

10. The stent of claim 1, further comprising a silicone coating.

11. The stent of claim 1, wherein the joint assemblies are spaced apart from an end of the stent by at least two strand crossings.

12. A self-expanding stent comprising:

a multiple number of strands each including a strand portion on both sides of a first strand bend, each of the strand portions having a strand portion end, the strand portions being woven, some of the strand portions including a second strand bend, pairs of said strand portion ends aligned end-to-end, each of the pairs of said strand portion ends including two strand portion ends of two different strands or the same strand; and

a multiple number of joint assemblies, the number of joint assemblies equal to the number of strands, each of the joint assemblies comprising one of the pairs of strand

## 18

portion ends, the joint assemblies being spaced apart from each other around a circumference of the stent, wherein the joint assemblies are spaced apart from an end of the stent by at least two strand crossings.

13. The stent of claim 12, wherein each said joint assembly comprises a tubular member or contoured strip.

14. The stent of claim 13, wherein the tubular member or the contoured strip comprise a same material as the strands.

15. The stent of claim 13, wherein the tubular member or the contoured strip is welded to one of the pairs of strand portion ends.

16. The stent of claim 12, wherein the joint assemblies increase a radiopacity of the stent.

17. The stent of claim 12, wherein the strand portion ends in each of the pairs of strand portion ends are spaced apart from each other.

18. The stent of claim 12, wherein the strands comprise at least one of polymer and metal.

19. The stent of claim 12, further comprising a silicone coating.

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